

Division of Nuclear Medicine
Department of Radiology
University of Minnesota Hospitals

8/11/76

CU107B

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August 11, 1976

Please Return
Correspondence

Mr. Hewson Ryan
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Department of Inter-American Affairs
Department of State U.S.A.
Washington, D.C. 20520

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

Dear Mr. Ryan:

I am writing you in regard to the current detention of my daughter, Gwenda Loken Lopez, in Argentina. As you are no doubt aware, Gwen was arrested for allegedly subversive activities - specifically, distributing pamphlets - on April 29, 1976, in Rosario. According to your letter of June 11, 1976, to my attorney, charges were filed and a court took jurisdiction of the matter. On June 15, we were informed that a decree had been issued by the Argentine Government ordering Gwen deported. Less than 24 hours before her scheduled deportation on July 8, the judge demanded that the order not be implemented. To the best of my knowledge, the order of deportation is still in effect but its implementation is being held in abeyance. Gwen has been returned to Rosario for further questioning by the court.

On the advice of various people in the State Department and the American Embassy in Argentina, we have patiently waited for the "slowness of the bureaucracy", in the words of the Embassy, to get around to the eventual implementation of the deportation decree. But it has been well over a month, and I have no hard evidence that the Argentine Government is any closer to releasing Gwen. Moreover, I am concerned and wish to know what action the State Department has taken and will take in the immediate future to expedite the matter.

On July 19, my attorney was informed by the State Department that you would be in Buenos Aires and that you would raise Gwen's case with the Embassy and with the Argentine Government. I appreciate your taking a personal interest in my daughter's case, but to date I have received no indication of your findings. I might add, parenthetically, that I feel the State Department has been somewhat less than candid with me concerning its efforts

Mr. Hewson Ryan

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on behalf of my daughter. I would like to meet with you briefly in Washington at your earliest convenience to discuss your assessment of the situation based on your trip to South America and, more importantly, what the State Department will be doing and what, if anything, I can do to speed Gwen's return home.

I hope you can respond to my request for a brief meeting as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


M. K. Loken, M.D., Ph.D.

MKL/gr

cc: ✓ Honorable Senator Hubert Humphrey
Mr. James Pedersen, Attorney at Law